

DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE



Division of Measurement Standards
8500 Fruitridge Road
Sacramento, CA 95826-4808

DMS NOTICE
P – 03 – 1

June 3, 2003

Discard: 12/03

TO WEIGHTS AND MEASURES OFFICIALS

SUBJECT: Portable Octane Tester Recalibration

This year many of the oil companies have changed the formulation of the gasoline they market, switching from MTBE (methyl tertiary butyl ether) to ethyl alcohol (ethanol). Executive Order D-52-02 mandates that no gasoline may contain MTBE after December 31, 2003.

The portable octane testers have two built in models; one for fuels containing MTBE and the second for ethanol. Most of the units in the field have only the MTBE model activated. We have now collected enough gasoline samples containing ethanol to calibrate and activate the second model. If you wish our Sacramento Laboratory to provide this service, please contact Al Hebert, at (916) 229-3030.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Cleary", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mike Cleary
Director
(916) 229-3000